

Montgomery County Climate Change Planning and Climate Actions

Fiscal Year 2021 Work Plan

(* = funded with FY21 Climate Change Non-Departmental Account funds.)

Planning and Technical Studies:

- Complete the Climate Action & Resilience Plan (CARP).
- Develop state-level legislative and regulatory options for greening the County's electricity supply.*
- Convene forum of financial experts to discuss funding and financing strategies for large-scale investments, and begin development of strategy to fund large-scale climate investments identified in the CARP.*
- Convene workgroup to develop recommendations for incorporating a climate lens into the budget development process.

Buildings

- Develop a Building Energy Performance Standard (BEPS). Steps include finalizing the BEPS workgroup recommendations, collecting data on building types*, and introducing legislation.
- Expand the Benchmarking Law to cover additional building sizes and property types.
- Submit the 2018 International Green Construction Code to County Council for adoption.
- Identify a path for net-zero homes through the International Energy Conservation Code.

Transportation

- Launch US29 FLASH bus service.
- Continue design of 355 and Veirs Mill bus rapid transit.
- Implement on-street Electric Vehicle (EV) residential charging station program under recently adopted regulations.
- Finalize Transportation Demand Management regulations.
- Issue a solicitation for a partner to install EV charging infrastructure at County facilities.
- Purchase hybrid vehicles for Police fleet (no EVs meet requirements).
- Increase number of EV buses for Ride On; pursue federal and state grants to fund additional EV bus procurements.
- Expand dockless vehicle pilot program with new vendors and service to additional areas.
- Install dockless vehicle parking corrals in high activity centers.
- Expand EV charging in County public parking facilities, with at-cost rates, typically lower than commercially available.
- Pilot test provision of curbside EV charging using devices mounted to streetlight poles.*
- Explore cooperative purchasing mechanism for EVs, similar to solar cooperatives.*

- Implement EV charger informational campaign to increase visibility of charger locations.*

Clean Energy

- Begin construction of 6 megawatts of solar at Oaks Landfill including 4 megawatts of community solar.
- Complete energy efficiency pilot projects at four County facilities, including Bethesda Chevy Chase Regional Services Center, Potomac Library, Upper County Community Recreation Center and Pool, and Margaret Schweinhaut Senior Center.
- Begin construction of the Brookville Maintenance Facility Smart Energy Depot.
- Conduct energy commissioning of Rockville core county buildings.
- Conduct the Executive Office Building advanced energy project concept study.
- Complete lighting retrofits and HVAC controls upgrades at selected County facilities using Exelon/PHI merger funds.
- Complete combined heat and power (CHP) and boiler upgrades at selected County facilities using AltaGas/WGL merger funds.
- Complete the lighting upgrade and solar installation for a resiliency hub at Scotland Recreation Center.

Climate Adaptation & Carbon Sequestration

- Plant more trees by increasing funding to address the backlog of tree requests in the Tree Montgomery Program.

Public Engagement

- Provide capacity for vulnerable members of the community to participate in the climate planning process, such as through an Equity Advisory Group or Climate Ambassador program.*
- Hold virtual office hours for residents to receive updates and provide feedback on climate initiatives.
- Regularly issue the Montgomery County Climate News newsletter.
- Host forums/sessions for the public to review the draft Climate Action & Resilience Plan.
- Develop, and launch, branded outreach and communications campaign.*

Capacity Building

- Conduct climate change workshops to 200 County employees in partnership with the Association for Climate Change Officers (ACCO).
- Issue climate change survey to all County employees in partnership with ACCO.
- Develop climate change learning modules for all County employees in partnership with ACCO.